ESCO

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April 2, 1992

Mr. Dick Florey
E.G.&G. Rocky Flats, Bldg. 051
P.O. Box 464
Golden, CO 80402-0464

Re: Inventory of Spiranthes diluvialis habitats at OU-2 sites.

Dear Mr. Florey:

This letter reports the results of a survey of potential Spiranthes diluvialis habitat conducted on March 23 and March 31, 1992 on certain sites of proposed disturbance associated with the OU-2 project. I was accompanied to these sites by Scott McGlochlin, Kay Ryan, and Wes Goodwin of E.G.&G. These sites were mostly examined from the car since most are in a zone of restricted ground activity.

SW50 - This site is a seep with heavy cattail (Typha latifolia) growth in the center, but with the potential for suitable habitat in the transition zone at the edge of the cattail.

SW51 - Like SW50, this site has heavy cattail growth in the center, but has the potential for suitable habitat in the transition zone at the edge of the cattail.

SW52 - Like SW50, this site has heavy cattail growth in the center, but has the potential for suitable habitat in the transition zone at the edge of the cattail.

SW53 - At this site, completely and heavily covered by cattail renders this site unsuitable for Spiranthes diluvialis.

SW55 - This site adjacent to a chain link fence is recently disturbed by the fence /road construction, making it unsuitable for the occurrence of the plant.

SW57 - This site includes moist, moderate grass cover that comprises potential habitat for Spiranthes diuvialis.

SW58 - Like SW50, this site has heavy cattail growth in the center, but has the potential for suitable habitat in the transition zone at the edge of the cattail.

SW59 - This site is comprised of disturbed material that is part of a roadfill, and is clearly unsuitable habitat for the plant.

SW63 - This site is comprised of a heavy stand of Canada thistle (Cirsium arvense), clearly too tall and dense for the occurrence of Spiranthes diluvialis.

SW64 - At this site, on a basically dry south-facing slope with conspicuous Spanish bayonet (Yucca glauca), somewhat moist sconditions were evidenced by the presence of indigobush leadplant (Amorpha fruticosa ssp. angustifolia) and plains cottonwood (Populus deltoides). In the middle of the latter is what appears to be a trench or ditch which is filled with cattails. There appears to be no suitable wet zone without the presence of heavily shading/competing vegetation.

SW65 - Like SW50, this site has heavy cattail growth in the center, but has the potential for suitable habitat in the transition zone at the edge of the cattail.

SW77 - At this site, like site SW55, immediate proximity to the chain link fence in the midst of construction disturbance indicates that this site is unsuitable habitat. Unlike SW55, this site has experienced invasion by a few cattails.

SW103 - This site is comprised of heavy Canada thistle growth in a matrix of very wet Baltic rush, unsuitable habitat for the plant.

SUMMARY

Sites SW50, SW51, SW52, SW57, SSW58, and SW65 all contain potential Spiranthes diluvialis habitat, and SW53, SW55, SW59, SW63, SW64, SW77, and SW103 do not.

If you have questions regarding this information, please call me.

Sincerely,

David L. Buckner

David L. Buckner, Ph.D.
Plant Ecologist

cc: Jean Tate, EBASCO